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The colon is used, not, as in the best American usage, to anticipate the explanation of a previous statement, but without difference from a semicolon (pp. 325, 326). Capitals appear, as in "Age to Come" (pp. 277, 278), yet the same word has elsewhere lower case (pp. 342, 365). Foreign words in English letters are sometimes in italic (pp. 69, 79), sometimes in roman (pp. 230, 424). The proof-reading is often defective (p. 106, l. 18; p. 174, l. 17; p. 320, l. 10; p. 323, l. 25; p. 339, l. 3). But quite apart from its dress the book marks a most important stage in the critical study of the New Testament.

FREDERIC PALMER.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

BOOKS OF SERMONS:

ADDRESSES AND SERMONS TO STUDENTS. DAVID M. STEELE. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1919. Pp. 257. \$1.25.

CITIZENS OF TWO WORLDS AND OTHER SERMONS. C. B. WILLIAMS. Fleming H. Revell Co. 1919. Pp. 214. \$1.25.

THE BREATH IN THE WINDS, AND OTHER SERMONS. FREDERICK F. SHANNON. Fleming H. Revell Co. 1918. Pp. 173. \$1.00.

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT: BRITAIN AND AMERICA IN THE GREAT WAR. JOSEPH FORT NEWTON. George H. Doran Co. Pp. 241. \$1.50.

YALE TALKS. CHARLES REYNOLDS BROWN. Yale University Press. 1919. Pp. 156. \$1.00.

WHAT THE WAR HAS TAUGHT US. CHARLES EDWARD JEFFERSON. Fleming H. Revell Co. 1919. Pp. 258. \$1.50.

Here are several recent volumes of sermons varying greatly both in type and excellence.

The rector of the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany in Philadelphia has brought together a number of Commencement orations and baccalaureate sermons delivered to students in institutions varying from a girls' boarding-school to the University of Pennsylvania. It is easy to understand why he should be in demand for such occasions. He is breezy and outspoken, provocative in his love of epigram, and not too profound in his thought to enable the young ladies to follow him readily. His sermon on "The Privilege of the Strong" to Bryn Mawr students, and on "The Chemistry of Souls" to the graduating class of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, are excellent examples of popular preaching adapted to special occasions. His address on "Why is a Seminary?" to the alumni of the Philadelphia

Divinity School, with its pointed and not altogether just criticism of theological education, illustrates his somewhat Chestertonian quality. But when, in a later address, we find him referring to "the *Imitatione de Christi*," and classing "the rhapsodies of Benvenuto Cellini" with the *Confessions of St. Augustine* as devotional literature, one wonders less at his complaint that he feels that his own Alma Mater did not do all she might for him.

Dean Williams of the Southwestern Baptist Seminary at Fort Worth presents what is really rather a series of sermon outlines than a volume of finished addresses. In many instances they are running commentaries on Scripture passages, with frequent references to wartime duties of Americans thrown in. They read as though they had been taken down stenographically and had been printed without sufficient revision. It is difficult to explain otherwise how an undoubtedly orthodox Dean of a theological seminary could make the following slip: "So the whole triune God is committed, in their (*sic*) infinite resources, to the preservation and security of the believer."

Very different in quality is Dr. Shannon's volume. Here is a vigorous preacher, who uses a noble style to deal with great themes. He is a writer of marked individuality, and his thought flows broad and deep between borders made rich and lovely by apt illustration. His sermons read so well that one wonders how they sounded — whether they flew low enough to the ground for his hearers. However that may be, they are delightful and stimulating reading.

Dr. Newton made his reputation as a preacher in Iowa before he was called to be the American minister of the City Temple in London. In the present volume he has printed a collection of sermons delivered in London during the Great War. They are words of courage and of consolation, free from bitterness and hate, looking through the gloom of the war to the brighter days beyond. If he has something less of literary quality than Dr. Shannon, he has perhaps more directness of appeal, more immediate application to the occasion. It is good to know that a sermon like his on "England and America" was preached in London in 1918. But there is little to choose among them, for all alike are the words of a straightforward, undogmatic preacher, whose feet know the common ways of life but whose eyes are lifted to the eternal hills.

"Talks" is an accurate title for the little volume of addresses delivered in Battell Chapel at Yale by Dean Charles R. Brown, of the

Yale School of Religion. They are brief, direct, pithy sometimes to the verge of slang, well calculated to hold the attention of young men not too much given to close thinking about sacred themes but ready enough to listen to practical, stimulating, sagacious advice about clean and honorable living. For there is, in these talks, genuine power and a burning moral passion which kindles the reader. But one wonders if it is no longer possible, even in our University chapels, for the preacher to deal with the profounder intellectual aspects of the religious life. In such institutions, if anywhere, there ought still to be a hearing for the sermon which seeks to go to the root of our ethical problems and of our intellectual questions regarding faith and life.

We could wish with all our hearts that the world had really learned "What the War has Taught Us," as expounded by Dr. Charles E. Jefferson of the Broadway Tabernacle. But these discourses, though delivered only a short time ago, speak of truths already half forgotten. The war did indeed teach us afresh "the meaning of sacrifice," "the might of the spirit," "the progressive brutality of war," and many other things set forth in the volume with vigor and a considerable measure of insight. But we have already experienced a considerable "slump" in our idealism, perhaps because humility was not one of the things we learned, perhaps because America actually suffered so little and realized in so small measure what the war really meant to Europe. The theme of the volume is one which many a preacher might use to advantage in keeping before his people the moral and spiritual lessons which they are prone speedily to forget.

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